



# **Alabama State Department of Education Board Retreat**

November 15, 2019



# Topics of Discussion

- Assessment
- Office of School Improvement
- Literacy Act
- Educator Preparation
- Educator Certification
- Computer Science for Alabama Act
- Mental Health in Schools
- NAEP
- Status of Common Core
- College and Career Readiness Gap



# Assessment

- Alabama Comprehensive Assessment Program
  - DRC (Grades 2-8)
  - AAA (Now the ACAP Alternate)
  - Access (EL students)
  - Access Alternate (EL students)
  - ACT
  - ACT Workkeys
- Score Conversion of Scantron



# Office of School Improvement

- Supporting & monitoring CSI schools
- Results of the work completed during the 2018-2019 SY
- Supporting ATSI schools through School Improvement Network (collaboration with other ALSDE sections)
- Providing professional development, resources, and support for non-identified schools as needed
- Developing & presenting specific professional development modules (Mega Conference)
- Partner with Regional Inservice Centers to provide differentiated support
- Partnering with outside agencies (A+ Best Practices Center, Academic Development Institute, SREB) to support schools through Key Leaders, Transformation Academy, etc.)



# Literacy Act

- K-3 Reading Assessment RFP Proposals
  - Due November 22, 2019
  - Proposal Opening November 25, 2019
- Literacy Task Force Meeting December 11, 2019
  - Assessments
  - Core Reading & Intervention Programs
  - Professional Development
- FY20 ARI Budget Planning for Literacy Act Prioritization
  - LEA Personnel - Regional Reading Specialists for lowest 5%, Limited Support 1, & Limited Support 2
  - LEA Professional Development – Science of Reading, Multisensory Strategies, etc.
  - LEA Summer Camps (including Alabama Summer Achievement Program)
  - LEA Pilot Programs – Dyslexia Learning Labs (DLL), Instructional Leaders (I3L), etc.
- January 2020 - December 2021 Literacy Act Implementation Timeline: SEA, LEA, & Literacy Act Requirements
- Resource Toolkit Development



# Educator Preparation

- Educator Preparation Chapter of the Alabama Administrative Code: (1) Common and program-specific components; (2) CAEP standards, SPA standards (NCTE, NCTM, etc.), Alabama courses of study, and school needs; (3) Program review: written documentation and onsite visit; (4) Flexibility in designing programs to meet ALSBE rules, but must also meet EPP and SACS requirements; (5) Assessments scored by non-Alabamians are required for all applicants for initial certification – Praxis to measure content knowledge and edTPA to assess performance
- The Alabama Literacy Act: (1) Dyslexia Therapist endorsement and approved Dyslexia courses; (2) 9 hours of reading courses for elementary teachers by 2020-2021 and perhaps a new test; (3) CAEP accreditation to be sought by 12/31/ 2020
- Education Preparation of Special Education Teachers
- Course Content for Academic Majors



# Educator Certification

- Application Review Process
- Certificate Reciprocity
- Administrative Code (examples)
  - Individuals who hold a valid Professional Educator Certificate are required to complete Classroom Management and Methods of Teaching in Technical Education if they choose to later do a Career and Technical Education pathway
  - Evaluate whether there are more appropriate courses for individuals progressing through the CTE pathway to take
  - Acceptable documentation to verify business and industry experience
  - Wording that is more inclusive of various degrees for those in technical education to advance to the Master's and Sixth-Year Equivalent Certificates
  - Items that are on memoranda to be added (examples)
    - Testing options for certificate reciprocity
    - Decrease the amount of experience required to begin a CTE pathway
- Computer Science



# Computer Science Update

- New CS Specialist Position Update
- CS Strategic Plan for Statewide CS Education (Chair of House and Senate EP committees by December 31, 2019)
- Alabama's Roadmap to STEM Success: A Strategic Plan for STEM Education
  - Developed by the Governor's Advisory Council for Excellence in STEM (ACES)
  - Presented to the Governor by the ACES Steering Committee on November 7, 2019
- LEA CS Updates due to AMSTI November 25, 2019
- Third Annual CS Summit – April 27, 2020 (Location TBD)
- EIR Grant Update – Summer training set for June 15 – 19, 2020
- The JROTC Cyber Training Act [H.R. 3266 | Senate Bill 2154]



# Mental Health in Schools

- According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) mental health disorders are described as “serious changes in the way children typically learn, behave or handle emotions” which cause distress and compromise children’s ability to function.
- Up to 1 in 5 children experience mental health disorders
- The school environment provides an opportunity for students to receive services on-site
- Annual Trainings for Counselors
  - Jason Flatt Act, Jamari T. Williams Act, Erin’s Law
- Project AWARE-Promoting mental wellness for students in schools
  - Originated 2018
  - Collaborative Partnership between ALSDE and ADMH
  - Currently three participating LEAs, ten more in year 2 of grant



# NAEP

- General Information
- National Trends
- State Trends
- Strategies for Improvement



# Status of Common Core

- Historical Perspective
- Alabama SBE Resolution

On November 14, 2013, Alabama's State Board of Education approved a resolution eliminating their 2009 memorandum of agreement with Common Core developers. In its place the SBE affirmed "our commitment to the Alabama College and Career Ready standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics". The resolution also included the following statements:

- Alabama's development and adoption of the Alabama CCRS in English Language Arts and Mathematics in November 2011 were achieved with the full understanding that the governance of said standards remains within Alabama as a sovereign and independent state and that any necessary changes and revisions would be made according to state-approved processes.
- The Alabama SBE fully affirms the Alabama CCRS in ELA and Mathematics as having been adopted based on the recommendations of Alabama teachers, professors, and others serving on the Alabama Courses of Study Committees.



# College and Career Readiness Gap

- Percentage of Graduating Cohort Achieving CCR by Indicator

Year	CCR Rate	ACT	IB	AP	<u>WorkKeys</u>	College Credit	Industry Credential	Military
2018	75.05%	50.64%	.56%	11.16%	57.17%	12.7%	28.7%	2.03%
2017	71.58%	55.69%	.55%	11.59%	61.37%	11.64%	24.13%	2.07%
2016	66.3%	45.58%	.46%	9.6%	51.1%	8.34%	16.43%	1.44%

- Gap between CCR and Graduation Rate  
2016 - 20.83%                      2017 – 17.71%                      2018 – 14.95%
- Apprenticeships
- Strategies
  - Workkeys & ACT
  - Continue to expand AP course offerings and support
  - Fully integrate dual enrollment into high schools
  - Define and support approaches leading to Industry Credentials